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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 28 | Min 20 | Humidity 70% Scattered Thunderstorms Sensex 65,280 | Nifty 19,331 | Gold 58,792 | Silver 71,333 | Dollar 82.62 | Euro 90.63 | GBP 106.07

THIS GIG'S NOT COOL

Insurance not enough, gig workers ask where is welfare board

PAGE 2

EYES WIDE SHUT

Not many of CCTVs installed in wards are in working condition

PAGE 3

As state records 995 cases of cruelty by husband in 2023, we take a look at how effective is implementation of Domestic Violence Act and if things are changing

THE ENEMY WITHIN

Police say many times women choose to settle matter without filing FIR

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The state has recorded 995 cases of cruelty by husband under section 498 (a) of IPC in 2023, as per the Karnataka police data.

The data shows that in 344 cases, husbands were involved and in 458 cases husbands along with relatives in law were involved in inflicting violence. In 14 cases, only relatives in law were involved. As of April 2023, Karnataka has recorded 179 cases of dowry harassment.

Women's rights activist KS Vimala says that despite having laws and institutions in place, society and the state fails women in protecting them against domestic violence.

"Unfortunately, the Domestic Violence Act is not being properly implemented. When it comes to a protection officer or service provider, nobody knows where they are or what they are up to. Most of the time, victims of domestic violence don't have an outlet due to the patriarchal nature of our society and the system. Even in 2023, society wants women to be tolerant and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

"The government started the initiative of Santwana Kendra, but funds dried up. After protests and demand, they again started it in some places. Most of them are not working anymore

– KS Vimala, Women's rights activist

Dirty work

State pollution board seems to be in no hurry to fix contaminated sites that can cause serious health, environmental damage

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It seems the 25 contaminated sites in Karnataka identified by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) more than two years ago are here to stay.

While the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) was required to direct the responsible party to carry out a detailed investigation and remediate the sites scientifically as per the guidance document provided by CPCB, not much has moved on-ground.

According to officials from KSPCB, the board is awaiting a project proposal from the Environmental Management and Policy Research Institute (EMPRI) with details on fund requirements. The official informed BM that a letter was also issued to the institute a couple of months ago and discussions have followed.

"EMPRI is expected to submit the project proposal to carry out a detailed study of 25 sites identified by CPCB. The institute has discussed the requirements of the study with CPCB, and we too have provided inputs. They are expected to submit a detailed proposal by the end of this week. The moment we receive it, a work order will be issued. EMPRI will collect soil and groundwater samples for analysis along with photographic evidence and a detailed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Creative show

Here's a chance to visit an Arts and Crafts Convention being organised by Grand Flea, a well-known event management company. You can get to see a variety of jewellery, boutiques, intricately woven bedsheets from Rajasthan, and more. The event aims to encourage artists and was inaugurated by actress and ace model Bhoomi Shetty and Deena Poojary.
Where: Chitrakala Parishath
When: until July 16; from 11:30 am

02 Interesting plays

The annual Ranga Shankara Theatre Festival 2023 is all set to happen this July in the city. The artists will be performing five exciting age-specific plays made especially for children. Sows are Just Hiss, Hanv Ghara Asa, The Land of Mea Lilo, The Crying Village, and Bags of Gags.
Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar
When: July 18-23; 7:30 pm

03 Action time

Grab the chance to watch a play that explores the relationship between a guru and his student. Written by Priyam Jani and directed by Aashish Rana, Digdarshak is about a theatre director and a student who is now a celebrity. Their differences help them understand what caused a drift during their earlier days.
Where: Vyoma ArtSpace and Studio Theatre
When: Saturday, July 15

Gig workers want what they were promised

Let down by declaration of insurance scheme in Budget, workers' unions call for formation of welfare board as was promised in Cong manifesto

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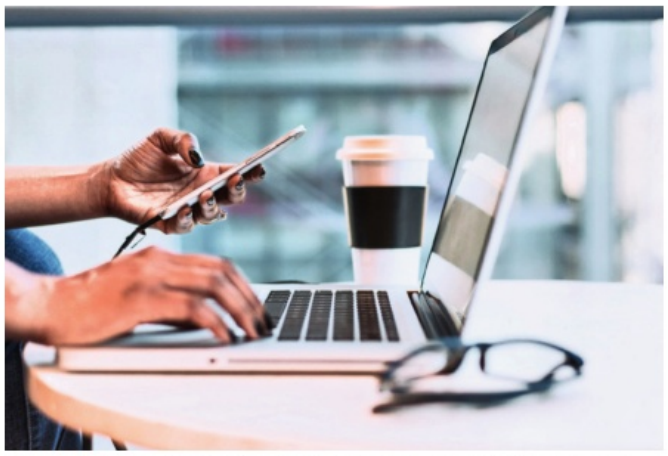
In its election manifesto, the Congress had promised to set up a 'gig workers welfare board' with a Rs 3,000 crore seed money allotment. However, presenting the first budget since the Congress government was recently formed, Chief Minister Siddaramiah on Friday only announced an insurance cover of Rs 4 lakh for gig workers. Gig worker unions are disappointed over the move and have called for the formation of a welfare board at the earliest.

The premium will be borne by the government, and the total insurance includes life insurance of Rs 2 lakh and accident cover of Rs 2 lakh. Prior to the elections being conducted in May, Rahul Gandhi had visited the city and interacted with gig workers from various companies. Unions then expressed that gig workers needed to be given the recognition of formal employees and not mere partners.

Suman Das, a member of the All India IT & ITeS Employees' Union (AIITEU), said that since gig workers are positioned outside the employer-employee binary, they are discriminated against in various ways.

"The government must first define who a gig worker is and what procedure they must follow in order to register for assistance since there is currently no policy governing them," he said.



The total insurance includes life insurance of Rs 2 lakh and accident cover of Rs 2 lakh for gig workers

> **"The government must first define who a gig worker is and what procedure they must follow in order to register for assistance**
>
> –Suman Das, AIITEU

While workers are considered mere partners, they often end up working more hours than a regular employee would. However, they are not entitled to any social security measures as they are not on the rolls of a company, he added.

"We have found that gig workers are bound to work 12–13 hours a day. If they choose to behave as their designated title requires—an independent partner choosing to work during their convenient time slots—companies block their access and leave them unemployed. This forces gig workers to give in to the whims and fancies of companies," he explained, adding that there is a need for a country-wide policy addressing the issues of gig workers.

He noted that gig workers' unions across eight cities, including Bengaluru, are going to be presenting memoranda with their demands to their respective companies on July 14. They are also going to be staging a rally.

Alok Prasanna, Co-founder and Team Lead at the Vidhi Centre of Legal Policy said that while a welfare board is necessary, the government must also ensure that the board has adequate representation from gig workers. He added that gig workers within the board must be in charge of the formulation of schemes as well as the allocation of funds.

Rajasthan recently became the first state in the country to enact a law in order to ensure the financial and social security of around 5 lakh gig and online platform workers in the state. In the state Budget, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said that under the Gig Workers Welfare Act, a Gig Workers Welfare Board will be established, and a Gig Workers Welfare and Development Fund will be set up with a fund of Rs 200 crore. A report by the NITI Aayog on gig workers that was put out in June 2022 estimated that the country will have 2.35 crore gig workers by 2029–30, up from the 68 lakh gig workers in 2019–20.

Pilgrims overcome unexpected twists

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Numerous Kannadigas who were trapped in and around the Amarnath Cave Temple have been reported as safe, and rescue missions are underway to bring them back to their home state securely.

Rakesh, one of the pilgrims, told Bangalore Mirror that it seems the prayers have been answered as the rainfall has stopped, but the cold weather is still challenging.

"We are stranded in the camps, and the weather fluctuates drastically, making communication difficult. We began our journey from Dharwad on July 3, travelled to Srinagar, then Pahalgam, and finally started walking towards Amarnath. Fortunately, we had the darshan on July 6, but afterwards, we were unable to leave. The high altitude has caused mountain sickness, leading to severe nausea. We must walk back 31 km to reach Pahalgam, then proceed to Srinagar and fly back to our hometowns," he said.

Many of the pathways have been closed due to heavy rainfall, and recharging mobile phones has become challenging, he added.

Pilgrims on their way to Amarnath Temple in Jammu & Kashmir

Another pilgrim shared their experience, stating, "We have been stranded for the past three days, and staying in the camps has been difficult. Although food is provided, it is not properly cooked, causing digestive issues. Fortunately, we have been able to reach other stranded yatris through phone communication."

The Amarnath Yatra was suspended for three days due to continuous rain and landslides, leaving thousands of pilgrims stranded in Jammu and various locations along the route to the cave shrine. Heavy rainfall and snowfall affected several high-altitude areas, including Mahagunas Top and the vicinity of the Amarnath cave shrine. Some areas experienced record-breaking rainfall for the month of July. Consequently, the Yatra remains suspended on both the Pahalgam and Baltal routes for the second day due to adverse weather conditions. Approximately 15,000 pilgrims were stranded in the Jammu region.

Another yatri, who was stuck at Panjtarni, described the situation, saying, "Due to the cold weather, we are mostly staying in tents. The security forces have been supporting us and providing us with confidence. Our initial plan was to visit Vaishnodevi after completing the Amarnath Yatra and then proceed to Leh. However, our plans have been disrupted due to being stranded."

The 62-day annual pilgrimage to the shrine, situated at an altitude of 3,888 m in the south Kashmir Himalayas, commenced on July 1 from the twin tracks of Pahalgam in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district.

Who's watching? CCTV cameras have gone kaput

Of 21 CCTV cameras installed in Doddanekundi ward, only 12 fully functional, citizens' assessment reveals

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A few years ago, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) had installed CCTV cameras at some wards to keep a track on people dumping garbage on the roads and creating blackspots and also to monitor garbage clearance. In a recent assessment carried out by the residents of Doddanekundi, it was observed that some of the CCTV cameras were not in a working condition.

Indira Belde, leader of the Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party (BNP), and her team conducted an analysis of the CCTV cameras in Doddanekundi ward. The assessment unveiled a database highlighting the inadequate maintenance of the cameras by the BBMP. It includes detailed information on each camera's location, mode of operation, degree of public exposure, and accompanying photos.

According to Indira, through the BBMP portal it was found that approximately Rs 13 lakh was spent in 2019 for the installation of CCTV cameras in the ward. Belde wanted to check how many of these cameras were still working.

" A month ago, I noticed a lot of banners and flags from some organisation on display near a tree at the roadside in the ward. We removed all the flags and carried out a plantation drive so that the space would not again be used to put any flexes or flags. While carrying out the activity, we noticed a CCTV camera near the tree and we found out from the BBMP that it was installed by them. I then checked on the BBMP website where it was stated that over Rs 13 lakh was spent in the initiative," she said.

Indira along with a few interns started the assessment last week by going into every locality and checking where the cameras are installed. They found 21 cameras installed in the locality. Of these, only 12 seemed to be working.

She said, " We have witnessed several incidents of chain snatching, 2-wheeler thefts, and threats to the safety and security of our seniors. The non-functioning cameras not only jeopardise everyone's safety but also hinder the effectiveness of investigations carried out by law enforcement agencies. Our survey indicates that the inefficient CCTV cameras have significantly compromised the safety and security of the residents."

" Most of these cameras serve no purpose. Many of them are non-functional, not connected to the monitor, installed in inappropriate locations

Supriya Geddam, a member of BNP, emphasised on the urgent need for rectifying the situation.

"BBMP has allocated crores of rupees in the past, including in the previous budget, for the installation and maintenance of CCTVs in different wards. However, most of these cameras serve no purpose. Many of them are non-functional, not connected to the monitor, installed in inappropriate locations, and often obstructed by trees and advertisement boards. The BBMP must establish a framework for routine reviews of the CCTV systems' performance and efficiency," she said.

Belde and her team plan to submit a letter to the BBMP ward engineers along with the BBMP chief commissioner stressing on the need for immediate action. They will even meet the Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar and highlight the issue.

"The request will include fixing the non-functional cameras, streamlining the repair process, ensuring prompt resolution of maintenance requests, enhancing coordination and communication among departments and authorities," she said.

Drunken scuffle ends in murder

CRIME FILES

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A scuffle between two people ended up in murder near Link Road signal in Malleswaram on Saturday. Two people are said to have gotten drunk around 7 pm and got into a fight. During the fight, one person hit the other with a stick. The injured man died on the spot.

A case has been registered in Malleswaram police station.

Bike crashes into barrier, rider dies

A young man died after his bike crashed into a barrier in the wee hours when he was on a ride with his friend on a road in Padmanabhanagar.

The victim has been identified as Ram Kumar, 29. Yashwanth, 22, the pillion rider, was seriously injured.

The two men are residents of Pramod Layout near Byatarayanapura. Ram Kumar was a techie working in a private company.

The two had gone on a ride at around 2 am, when Ram Kumar lost control over the bike and crashed into the flyover barrier.

Due to the impact of the collision, Ram Kumar is said to have suffered severe head injuries and died on the spot. The person who was sitting in the back jumped from the seat when the bike rammed into the median and fell and got seriously injured.

At present, the injured man is being treated at a private hospital. A case has been registered at Banashankari Traffic Police Station.

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Not biz as usual as Metro work drags on

Never-ending cable laying work brings life to standstill on CMR Road

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The ongoing Namma Metro work on CMR Road has become a cause of concern for some businessmen, as the inordinate delay in completing the cable laying work and the pits dug for this purpose have been affecting their livelihood. They suffer in silence, as they are neither influential nor powerful enough to insist that the Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) expedite the completion of the work that came to a grinding halt more than two months ago.

The pits dug for laying cables are barricaded, and as a result, the number of customers visiting the shops situated near these pits has considerably decreased, resulting in a loss for the businessmen.

"I used to have around 10 customers a day. Now, the number has come down to two or three. There are many days when I end up opening the shop and sitting idle, expecting a few customers to visit. I am finding it difficult to pay the rent and meet other expenses," said Uwais Khan of HP World.

Expressing a similar opinion, Bhupathy N, who owns a Jockey and Brass shop, mentioned that he hardly gets any customers. "I have been incurring losses for the last four months due to the delay in completing the work by the BMRCL contractor. We are eagerly waiting for the completion of the work, as it is badly affecting our business," said Bhupathy N.

With half of the road barricaded, the road becomes narrow wherever pits are dug up by the BMRCL, resulting in traffic jams during peak hours. "The huge cables are kept on the footpath in front of our shop. With no space to walk on the footpath, pedestrians are compelled to walk on the road, and it is very tough for them during peak hours. Traffic jams have become a routine every day," said an anonymous shop owner.

Pits dug up for laying cables have been barricaded, which is why shops are complaining of reduced customer footfall here

> **"I used to have around 10 customers a day. Now, the number has come down to two or three. There are many days when I end up opening the shop and sitting**
>
> – Uwais Khan, HP World

Another pit dug up on the road opposite Tails In Town has become a health hazard, as stagnated water not only becomes dirty but also serves as a breeding place for mosquitoes. "The pit is covered on three sides and open on one side. It is dangerous for children, and it has become a breeding place for mosquitoes. The work stopped more than two months ago," said a woman who owns a petty shop on CMR Road.

Autos leak leachate in Vasanthnagar

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Residents of Vasanthnagar ward complain that compactor autos stationed near Race Course Road are leaking leachate on the road, causing a stinking scene. However, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) officials say that daily measures are being taken to address the odour issue.

It's a bitter pill to swallow that waste transfer causes a stinking mess in the area. While many measures are undertaken to reduce the odour, residents continue to face issues. The Palike even shifted the stationing of the waste compactor autos to a non-residential area owing to complaints from the previous locations.

Autos stationed near Race Course Road are causing trouble for locals

A resident of the area said, "Previously, the autos were located near an apartment on Kumara Krupa Road, and for the past three months, they've been moved to Race Course Road. Few residents staying in the locality are facing the brunt. There is a stench emanating from the area, and the leachate is being dropped on the ground.

The layer of leachate is not being cleaned, and they compact the waste around 10-11 am, nearing office time."

Prakash Chand Prigal, Secretary of Madhavnagar Resident Wing Association, said, "When the garbage is compacted, there is a lot of unpleasant smell. Citizens are dumping garbage in the nearby park despite the autos being stationed in the morning. We have complained many times."

However, BBMP officials say that efforts are being made to clean the leachate daily. "We have shifted the location of the waste auto compactors from a residential area due to complaints. Now, we have moved it to a non-residential area. Now, citizens are complaining even about that. We are cleaning the leachate water daily and pouring bleaching powder on the ground to reduce the odour," said the Junior Health Inspector from the area.

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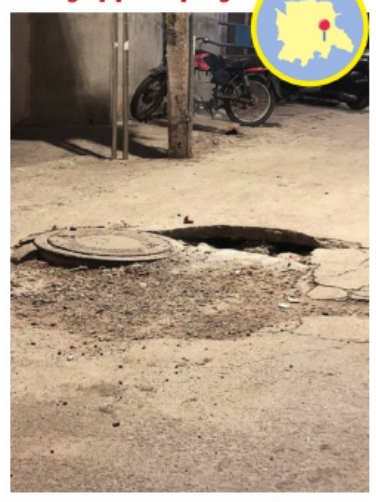
Repairs needed
Byrapura

The road between Byrapura and Huniyuru is in urgent need of repair.

Road cave-in
Mariyappanapalya



The road near Kuvempu metro station, Mariyappanapalya, 12th cross, close to Balaji Scooter Garage has caved in.

Tree axed
Brunton Road cross

A fully grown tree was initially choked by cement and subsequently chopped down on Brunton Road cross.

Hullabaloo at posh city club

Allegations of misuse of funds surface at Domlur Club, FIR lodged

A view of Domlur Club in the city; an FIR was registered against club's general secretary

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Domlur Club is a prestigious club in the city. However, the name of its members, especially those in responsible positions, are at stake due to a First Information Report (FIR) registered by Indiranagar Police on July 5.

Based on a complaint by Domlur Club president T Giriraj, the FIR was registered against Domlur Club general secretary Gopi R, bar committee chairman K Nagaraj, and treasurer Naveen S under Sections 34 (in furtherance of common intention of all), 120B (criminal conspiracy), 406 (criminal breach of trust), 420 (cheating), 465 (forgery), 471 (using as genuine a forged document), and 417 (cheating).

According to the FIR copy available with Bangalore Mirror, Giriraj stated that Naveen, as the treasurer, was entrusted with the task of maintaining all club accounts, including cash and digital payments. "Gopi, Nagaraj, and Naveen, with the common intention of making illegal gains for themselves by causing wrongful loss to the club and its members, have hatched a conspiracy. Nagaraj, being the chairman of the bar committee, misappropriated money and materials/stocks like liquor and other beverages by selling them without raising bills, in active collusion with general secretary Gopi R and treasurer Naveen S," Giriraj said in the complaint.

The FIR states that Nagaraj brought several people to the club/bar, consumed liquor without billing, and sold liquor to their guests without billing between November 2022 and April 2023, illegally swindling lakhs of rupees. "After collecting money illegally without billing, they misappropriated it for personal gain with utter disregard for the trust reposed in them, committing criminal breach of trust and misappropriation," he said in the complaint.

> **Nagaraj, being the chairman of the bar committee, misappropriated money and materials/stocks like liquor and other beverages**
> – From club prez's complaint

A letter dated June 22, signed by Kishore S, Jayaprakash V, Murugan R, and Umashankar M, urged the issuing of a clarification statement to rule out any misuse of office to protect the integrity and reputation of the managing committee.

An anonymous member of the club stated that the general secretary has no authority to conduct an inquiry and reach conclusions without involving the managing committee members, president, and others.

Another member of the club mentioned that the general secretary did not inquire about the employees working at the bar and that no employee lodged a complaint with the managing committee or treasurer regarding non-payment of liquor served to guests at a marriage reception.

Giriraj declined to comment on the complaint. Gopi R denied the allegations. Treasurer Naveen S claimed to be unaware of the FIR.

On the other hand, Nagaraj K, was unavailable for comment.

Missing beer?

An observation made by the club general secretary estimated a shortfall of 290 litres of draught beer. A wedding reception was held on February 19 at Ramaiah Reddy Party Hall, and a naming ceremony was held on March 9 at BS Mani Hall & Old Billiards Room. Both halls were booked by K Nagaraj.
However, the Domlur Club general secretary collected Rs 59,509 for 290 litres of draught beer on June 25, more than three months later. As per norms, the bill for booking halls and serving liquor should be settled on the same day of the function. The general secretary concluded and directed the bar committee chairman to pay the dues within three days, informing the president and treasurer after payment.

Para World Championships: Rakshitha in finals

Vision-impaired Karnataka runner Rakshitha Raju qualified for the women's 1500m final in the Para Athletics World Championships, here on Sunday.

Accompanied by her guide and coach Rahul Balakrishna in the T11 category, the 2018 Para Asian Games gold medalist clocked 5:26.47 seconds in the second heat to qualify for the final on Monday.

The first two in each heat and the next two fastest have made it to the final.

Rakshitha has bagged the fifth place in a seven-member final field slated for Monday.

The field has three from Kenya with Mary Waithera Njoroge having the best timing of 4:54.86, followed by South Africa's Louzanne Coetzee (4:54.90) and Nancy Chelangat Koech (5:15.00), also from Kenya.

Rakshitha won the 1500m gold in the Guangzhou Asian Games and became one of the first female athletes in the country to achieve the feat in her category. —PTI

G20 meet: 450 artisans eye Guinness record

At the G20 Culture Working Group meeting, around 450 artisans from the nomadic Lambanis community of Hampi would try to set a Guinness record for making the highest number of embroidery patches, a senior official said.

> **Artisans want to create more than 1,300 patches**

The artisans would try to create more than 1,300 patches that would be put up on display for the record on Monday, when the deliberations at the meeting would start, Lily Pandeya, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, said.

She said setting the Guinness record would help empower the marginalised community.

"Once you get a UNESCO tag, you start talking about it and looking at it and therefore, it might actually help these women to increase their potential of livelihood and encourage more people to participate in such cultural and creative enterprises, apart from the consensus that we will try to achieve in terms of the language of the culture ministerial declaration, which would be the focus for the next two days," she said. —PTI

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It's a clean sweep at Bull Temple premises

Citizens' initiative in Basavanagudi brings together volunteers, NGOs, and BBMP to combat littering; 15 bags of dry waste cleared out of area

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Community led cleanup and awareness campaign revitalises Bull temple neighbourhood

The neighbourhood of the renowned Bull Temple Basavanagudi which used to be one of the attractions of Bengaluru is now a victim of litter. This area was littered with trash like single-use disposables, discarded clothes, and abandoned footwear. Recognising the urgent need for action, a dedicated group of citizens united on a Sunday to initiate a comprehensive cleanup and raise awareness in the area.

Keeping community spirit and environmental consciousness in mind, citizens, NGOs, and the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) joined forces to organise a comprehensive cleanup and awareness campaign in the vicinity of the iconic Bull Temple, Basavanagudi. The event, organised by 15 dedicated citizens, in collaboration with the Indian Ploggers Army and Jhatkaa.org, aimed to clean up the area while spreading awareness about waste management and reducing single-use waste.

Under the leadership of Raj, a passionate citizen from JP Nagar and the founder of The Indian Ploggers Army, the "plog" (a combination of jogging and picking up litter) kicked off promptly at 7:30 AM. The initiative drew participants from various parts of the city, with citizens travelling from as far as Electronic City and Bommanahalli to lend their support.

Within just an hour, the volunteers managed to collect more than 15 bags of dry waste from the surroundings of the Bull Temple. The waste was handed over to the BBMP representatives, who were on the ground to support the noble cause.

> **This kind of collaborative effort helps citizens to realise the amount of single-use waste generated and how they can reduce consumption** Chiku Agarwal, Jhatkaa.org

Chiku Agarwal, Senior Engagement Associate (SEA) at Jhatkaa.org, said, "This kind of collaborative effort helps citizens to realise the amount of single-use waste generated by them and how they can reduce consumption to let our landfill breathe. This effort also helped the BBMP to acknowledge the enthusiastic volunteers who contribute their time to initiatives like this."

Additionally, while cleaning a few leftovers in the premises, like events, wooden flexes and banners were repurposed as a fun activity, serving as photo frames for capturing memorable moments before being properly discarded.

A volunteer said, "This cleanup event was a fantastic opportunity to make a tangible difference in our neighbourhood. Let's keep the momentum going and continue to organise such initiatives. Together, we can create a cleaner, healthier, and more beautiful Bengaluru for everyone to enjoy"

One of the BBMP officials, Harish who was also part of the drive said, "Collaborations like these strengthen the bond between the BBMP and the community. As BBMP Marshals, we are thrilled to be part of initiatives like the Temple Run cleanup. It's heartening to see citizens actively engaging in creating a cleaner environment. "

NATION

Delhi sees highest rain in July since 1982

Delhi recorded 153 mm of rain in 24 hours ending 8:30 on Sunday, the highest in a single day in July since 1982, the India Meteorological Department said. An interaction between a western disturbance and monsoonal winds is leading to an intense rainfall spell over northwest India, including Delhi which experienced the season's first "very heavy" rainfall.

The Safdarjung Observatory, the city's primary weather station, recorded 153 mm of rainfall in 24 hours ending 8:30 am on Sunday, the highest since the 24-hour rainfall of 169.9 mm on July 25, 1982, a senior IMD official said.

In the past, the city logged 133.4 mm of rain on July 10, 2003, and an all-time high of 266.2 mm on July 21, 1958.

The Met Office has issued a yellow alert, warning of moderate rain which could cause more problems to the residents of Delhi.

The weather stations at Ridge, Lodhi Road and Delhi University recorded 134.5 mm, 123.4 mm, and 118 mm of precipitation, respectively.

According to the Met Office, rainfall below 15 mm is considered "light", 15 mm to 64.5 mm is "moderate", 64.5 mm to 115.5 mm is "heavy", and 115.6 mm to 204.4 mm is "very heavy".

Any amount exceeding 204.4 mm is classified as "extremely heavy" rainfall.

The heavy rain submerged parks, underpasses, markets and even hospital premises, and caused chaos on the roads.

Pictures and videos of commuters wading through knee-deep water flooded social media platforms, raising concerns about the efficiency of the city's drainage infrastructure. **-PTI**

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Special prize for punctual legislators

To ensure punctuality, Assembly Speaker UT Khader has introduced a unique initiative to reward those who arrive on time for the sessions. During the recent Assembly gathering, Khader made an announcement, stating, "We are instituting a special prize for those legislators who demonstrate punctuality. For instance, if we set the session to commence at 10:30 AM, we will proudly announce the prize for such dedicated individuals. Our staff members have been entrusted with the task of recording the timings." However, one of the legislators suggested that the word "prize" should not be used as it could send a wrong message and hence wanted it to be replaced with a certificate and Khader accepted the suggestion with a smile.

Rock breaks down

DK Shivakumar, known as a strongman and nicknamed "Bande"(rock) has recently displayed a more emotional side after gaining power. The public has witnessed him breaking down on a couple of occasions. The last time he was seen shedding tears in front of the media was during a press conference after the Congress party secured a resounding victory in the state elections. On the first day of the session, while paying tribute to the departed leaders, DKS spoke about his close association with the former KPCC working president Dhruva Narayan, who passed away before the elections. While speaking, DKS struggled to control his emotions and was visibly moved.

Are you with me?

Opposition parties attempted to criticise the government regarding the introduction of these guarantee schemes in the Assembly session. Former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai took the lead in attacking the government, aiming to counter the statements made by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. As Bommai passionately tried to address the gathering, he noticed his former cabinet colleague and Padmanabhanagar MLA R Ashoka remained seated while he was speaking. Ashoka did rise and speak, after identifying the gestures done to him by Bommai.

If women, why not men?

After the implementation of the Shakti scheme, which offers free travel for women, and the proposal of Rs 2,000 under the Gruhalakshmi scheme, many people have questioned why men are excluded from these benefits. Responding to this query at a public event, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar stated, "We have designed these schemes of distributing an amount of Rs 2,000 to women only, as we fear men may spend the amount at liquor shops, instead of household expenses."

My wings were clipped

Former Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy recently claimed that he became Chief Minister not through popular vote but by chance. In a media interaction, he candidly stated, "Let me honestly tell you that I have been Chief Minister of the state twice, but both times it was accidental and not a result of the popular vote. If the people had chosen me, I would have had a better opportunity to protect the interests of the state. However, as it was accidental and in a coalition, my wings were clipped."

-Sridhar Vivan

HEALTH TIP: Trim your ends regularly to get rid of split ends and promote healthier hair growth, especially if your hair is damaged

Use a wide-toothed comb or a detangling brush to gently brush your hair, starting from the ends and working your way up

Are pandemic babies different?

Behind on communication at age two – but other developmental areas remain unaffected

The world changed for all of us when we were suddenly plunged into a pandemic in 2020. Covid sent us into a series of lockdowns in a bid to control the spread of the virus until a vaccine could be developed.

Most of us knew that a vaccine would be the key to our post-pandemic lives. But what about those of us who knew nothing of the world before covid?

Our research group wanted to understand what life was like for babies born during the pandemic, and what it might mean for their general health and development.

In our latest paper, we found that by age two, with the important exception of communication, these pandemic babies were very similar to babies born before the pandemic in behaviour and development.

We followed families of babies born in the first three months of the pandemic, between March and May 2020. A total of 354 families and their babies visited us at six, 12 and 24 months of age.

The visits, particularly the earlier ones, were sometimes the only trips the families made outside the home. We were struck by some babies' wariness towards our experienced paediatric staff, which was often explained by comments from parents like "she hasn't been out much".

At each of the visits, we asked the parents for lots of information on their babies' lives and development by way of questionnaires.

Usually, in a study like this, it's best to compare the babies to a control group of other babies born at the same time but without the same challenges. As most of the world was in lockdown, we did the next best thing. We compared the lockdown babies to a similar group of babies born before the pandemic. This is a limitation of our study, but there were no comparable groups of babies available at the same time.

Social lives and development

We found these lockdown babies had tiny social circles. Because of covid restrictions, activities such as parent and baby groups were called off, and there were no visits to other homes.

At six months, an average of only three people had kissed the babies, including their parents – suggesting they hadn't met many relatives or family friends. One in four babies had not met another child their own age by their first birthday.

We also asked parents what it felt like to raise a baby during the pandemic. Words such as "lonely", "isolating" and "challenging" appeared repeatedly. Some positive themes emerged too, including parental bonding with the new baby and more family time due to the lockdown restrictions.

We looked at ten developmental milestones at the babies' first birthday. Among these, fewer pandemic babies had said their first word, could point or wave "bye-bye", and slightly more babies could crawl.

This makes sense when you think about it. Babies were probably hearing fewer words since they were getting out and about less. Also, the pandemic babies were likely to be very familiar with their home so there were few new things to point to. And as parents were working from home and visitors didn't generally come to the house, there may have been less need to learn how to wave goodbye. It's possible more pandemic babies crawled because they were more likely to have spent more time at home exploring.

At age two, we were interested to see whether these developmental differences had shifted. We asked parents questions about communication at this point including whether the child could say two or three words together to convey an idea, whether they could correctly point at something when asked (for example, point at the ball), and whether they could follow a simple command (for example, put the toy on the table).

The children born during the pandemic again had slightly lower scores in the communication portion of the questionnaire, even after we adjusted for factors such as the mother's education level and the child's age when the questionnaire was completed.

But reassuringly, the pandemic babies had similar scores to those born before covid in the other developmental areas we looked at, including motor skills and problem-solving ability.

We were also relieved to see no differences in reported behaviour between pandemic-born babies and those born earlier. We asked parents almost 100 questions about their child's behaviour including about sleep problems, anxious behaviour, how emotionally reactive they were, and whether they were socially withdrawn.

What can we do?

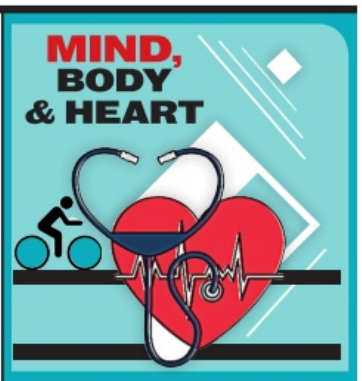
Research groups in many countries have shown that babies born shortly before or during the pandemic had slightly lower developmental scores.

Now that pandemic measures are gone, it's really important for all babies born during the pandemic to explore the exciting world. Families should meet with relatives and friends to expose their babies to a wider range of people, and babies should meet their peers at play groups. We also know that talking to babies and reading to small children is highly beneficial.

All babies should have developmental screening, which is often provided by national programmes. If families have any particular concerns it's important they contact their healthcare provider to discuss the child's development in more detail. This enables early and directed support to be provided to children who are found to have a specific developmental issue.

> **We found these lockdown babies had tiny social circles. Because of covid restrictions, activities such as parent and baby groups were called of**

—By Jonathan Hourihane, RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences (The Conversation)



All you need to know about...

Sleep-diabetes link

Lack of quality sleep
Researchers have known that a lack of quality sleep can increase a person's risk of diabetes. Now, new findings from a team of sleep scientists at the University of California, Berkeley, are closer to an answer.

Sleep brain waves and regulation of blood sugar
The researchers have uncovered a potential mechanism in humans that explains how and why deep-sleep brain waves at night are able to regulate the body's sensitivity to insulin, which in turn improves blood sugar control the next day.

How it works
"These synchronised brain waves act like a finger that flicks the first domino to start an associated chain reaction from the brain, down to the heart, and then out to alter the body's regulation of blood sugar," said Matthew Walker, a UC Berkeley professor of neuroscience and psychology and senior author of the new study. "In particular, the combination of two brain waves, called sleep spindles and slow waves, predict an increase in the body's sensitivity to the hormone called insulin, which consequentially and beneficially lowers blood glucose levels."

Why it is exciting
The researchers say this is an exciting advance because sleep is a modifiable lifestyle factor that could now be used as part of a therapeutic and painless adjunct treatment for those with high blood sugar or Type 2 diabetes.

For prediction
Beyond revealing a new mechanism, our results also show that these deep-sleep brain waves could be used as a sensitive marker of someone's next-day blood sugar levels, more so than traditional sleep metrics," said Vyoma D. Shah, a researcher at Walker's Center for Human Sleep Science and co-author of the study. —ANI

'Domestic Violence Act not implemented properly'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

kind and take all the abuse and say nothing. When it comes to property rights or economic freedom, we are doing better than before, but it's still not enough," she said.

The data also highlights that 46 cases have been registered for dowry deaths under section 304 (b) of IPC. Out of 46 cases, 18 involved the husband along with relative(s) in law and in two cases, just the husband was the accused in dowry death.

As many as 23 women in 2023, died by hanging due to dowry harassment, four murders took place due to dowry, said the police. Karnataka has recorded 676 cases of under dowry prohibition in 2023 and four cases have been registered for rape by the husband during separation.

As per the data by the latest month, on April 9, cases of dowry death have been reported, as against 10 cases in the previous month and nine cases in the corresponding month of previous year.

According to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's National Family Health Survey (NFHS), 44% of married women in Karnataka who participated in a survey from 2019 to 2021 stated they had experienced domestic violence.

As per a media report, every month, more than 100 women in Bengaluru seek therapy related to domestic violence at the Parihar-Vanitha Sahayavani (1091) institution, which is backed by the Bengaluru police.

Vimala added that the protection of women from Domestic Violence Act states that within a fixed time frame, investigation should be completed, but due to lack of manpower and resources it's not happening.

"The government started the initiative of Santwana Kendra, but during BS Yediyurappa's regime they stopped giving funds to the kendras. But after protest and demand, they again started it in some places. Most of them are not working anymore," she added.

DCP North Bengaluru said that every police station has counsellors and designated police officers that take up these cases and ensure that women feel safe enough to speak and report instances of violence.

"There are help desks at each police station, and there are counsellors who attend to the cases with our police officers. These counsellors are private counsellors who are appointed and they are not a part of the police. As compared to before, more women are feeling safe and comfortable to report cases in police stations, and most police stations have a separate place also where women can talk more freely about the violence," he said.

He added that in 50 percent of the cases, women would choose to settle the matter after counselling and not file an FIR.

"There are cases related to physical harassment and sometimes small disputes but it depends on region to region. Most of the cases that are reported in slums are of physical violence whereas in other places people come for counselling on small matters," said the DCP.

No-progress report on cleaning up contaminated sites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

will be submitted to CPCB within two months," informed a senior official at KSPCB. However, EMPRI denied knowledge of any such project.

"KSPCB might have contemplated handing the project over to EMPRI, but no such request has reached us so far. We have not discussed any such project with KSPCB," informed Jagmohan Sharma, director general of EMPRI.

CPCB, in December 2020, had identified 280 contaminated and probable contaminated sites across the country. The pollution watchdog had recommended that these sites be investigated in detail and remediation activity should be carried out to reduce human health risks and environmental impacts. Remediation was to be achieved by cleaning contaminated media.

Bengaluru is home to five such sites contaminated by toxic and hazardous substances.

These were Goripalya near Mysore Road, Mangammanapalya near Hosur Road, Peenya Industrial area, Mavallipura dumpsite near Yelahanka, and Begur Lake. The list of probable contaminated sites comprises Lalbagh Lake, Madiwala Lake, Hebbal Lake, Bellandur Lake, Kengeri Tank, Arekere Lake, Agara Lake, and Begur Lake.

KSPCB lagging

In a review meeting held in December last year, CPCB had directed KSPCB to carry out sampling of soil, groundwater, surface water, and sediments from multiple locations at these sites to ascertain the extent and nature of contamination.

Action taken report was to be submitted by KSPCB within two weeks.

According to a recent progress report published by CPCB, while KSPCB has not taken any concrete steps so far, remediation work on at least 38 out of 280 sites has been taken up by other state pollution control boards.

While preliminary assessment has been done at seven sites located in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, detailed investigation and project reports have been prepared for 17 sites located in Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal.

Remediation work has started at 14 sites in Gujarat, Jharkhand, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh.

Activists slam the board

While officials say they are grappling with staff shortage leading to limitations in the enforcement of environmental rules and carrying out monitoring activities, city-based environment activists say austerity cannot be an excuse for such a lackadaisical approach.

Experts opine that such unattended sites can lead to various health and environmental problems and thus remediation should be taken up sooner than later. They highlight that harmful chemicals from these sites can easily seep into groundwater, contaminating the water table.

"The way KSPCB has handled the management of these contaminated sites so far only highlights the callous attitude of the board and its officials. The state pollution control board has failed in its duty to control pollution. KSPCB should be reprimanded by CPCB and NGT. Moreover, the state government should take cognizance of this matter and initiate strict action against the erring officials. Being understaffed cannot be an excuse for failure in delivering their duties," said V Ramprasad, a city-based environment activist.

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Chilling visit — While shooting for 'Bawaal' in Poland, a visit to Auschwitz had a long lasting impact on Janhvi Kapoor. "It taught us a lot about the gravity of what we were making and speaking about. So that left a long lasting impression on me"

BangaloreMirror | 9
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Cheerleading partner

Vijay Varma and Tamannaah Bhatia's social media PDA continues to charm fans of the couple. In his latest post, the actor has hailed his girlfriend's upcoming project. As the song 'Kaavaalaa' from Tamannaah and Rajinikanth's upcoming film 'Jailer' was release, Vijay was quick to review it.

He shared the same on his Instagram story and wrote, "This song is fire. Cinema God and Goddess." Tamannaah Bhatia and Vijay Varma reportedly fell in love while shooting for 'Lust Stories 2' and their sizzling chemistry in the anthology has left the audience awestruck. From attending a concert to being snapped in a lip lock during a new year's eve in Goa – Tamannaah and Vijay have always hit headlines for their romance. After staying mum about the rumours, recently Tamannah cryptically admitted her relationship with Vijay, calling him her 'happy place'. She had also stated that their friendship is an important part of their relationship. While Tamannaah gears up for the release of 'Jailer', Vijay has a long list of projects lined up, from 'Mirzapur' season 3 to 'Murder Mubarak' and 'The Devotion of Suspect X'.

—ETimes

WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?

Huma Qureshi speaks about the power and peril of social media

Actor Huma Qureshi known for movies like Gangs Of Wasseypur, Badlapur and web-series Maharani, recently opened up on social media and the power it exercises on the common people.

In an interview to a leading news channel, Huma said that nowadays, social media has empowered all and everyone seems to have an opinion. She further went on to say that while there is no problem in having an opinion, it might not be the right one.

She also said that according to her, all the controversies surrounding movies like The Kashmir Files, The Kerala Story etc are futile, since all kinds of movies should be made. She also added that it is upto the audience to decide what they see or what they want to skip. Huma also said that the citizens of the country should concentrate on real issues rather than getting obsessed over who attended which Bollywood party or who got replaced in which film.

In the same interview, Huma also said that while she can't talk about everyone else, she has never faced any issue in the country because of her religion. She further went on to add that her father has been running a restaurant in New Delhi for the past 30 years and has always maintained a cordial relationship with his friends and neighbours. Huma is currently being seen in the OTT movie 'Tarla'.

—ETimes

Hayley on romance rumours with Tom Cruise

British-American actress Hayley Atwell has spoken up on rumours of romance with Tom Cruise . The actress, 41, and her 61-year-old in 'Mission: Impossible – Dead Reckoning Part One' co-star have been plagued by speculation they have extended their chemistry beyond the silver screen.

At the time of filming the latest installment of the film franchise, romance rumours began to swirl but it seems there wasn't any truth to them, reports Mirror.co.uk.

Hayley has poured cold water on the rumours by describing Tom as like an 'uncle' to her. The British star also said that she would turn to him for advice during filming. She said that she thought the rumours were "weird" and that she was upset when they began.

Speaking to The Independent she said: "I would be like, 'Ooh, there's some weird rumours, and it feels base, it feels a little dirty, it feels grubby, it's not what I'm about'. Why are things being assumed or projected onto me about my relationship with my work colleague and boss? It's upsetting."

— IANS

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

From MCA to direction

Sidhu S is an MCA graduate, but he has fulfilled his long cherished dream of becoming a director in Sandalwood with the film Santosha Sangeetha. A couple in real life – Arnav Vinyas and Rani Varadh – have played a couple in this movie.

Sidhu, apart from handling the megaphone, has bankrolled the movie.

"I am a MCA graduate with the habit of watching a movie every week. Whenever I watched a good movie, I used to crave to make a good movie in Kannada. Now, I am very happy to realise my dream," said Sidhu.

He said the script of the movie was ready during the lockdown. "Santhosha Sangeetha is a commercial love genre and it has all commercial elements to entertain the audience. The shooting of the movie is completed and arrangements are being made for its release," he said, adding that the cast also includes Doddanna, Avinash, Laya Kokila, Kavana, Amith, Lokesh Surya, and Haneesh.

Arnav said that Santhosha Sangeetha is his third movie after Hombanna and Premam. "I play an industrialist in the movie," he said.

Rani said the movie is about the problems a couple has to undergo if both are industrialists.

A child's dream

Suresh Lakkoor, who debuts as a director in Sandalwood with Devara Kanasu, is busy with the film's release slated for July 21. A function was held at SRV Theater at Malleswaram to launch its trailer. Ashwini Puneeth Rajkumar released the trailer and wished good luck to the cast and crew. Three songs of the movie were screened too.

Devara Kanasu was screened at around 30 film festivals, including Cannes Film Festival, it is said.

"I have done a film making course at New York Film Academy. Devara Kanasu is my maiden movie as a director. This movie was screened at various film festivals and received good feedback. Deva is the name of the protagonist in the movie. Master Deepak plays this role. My aim was to make my debut as a director with a children's movie. I am happy to fulfill my ambition," said Lakkoor.

He said the movie showcases the innocence of a boy from a village and the hurdles he faces to make ends meet. "The movie has other important elements such as Swachh Bharat, women empowerment and the ill-effects of alcohol in rural areas," he said.

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Kakuro

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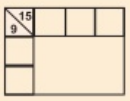

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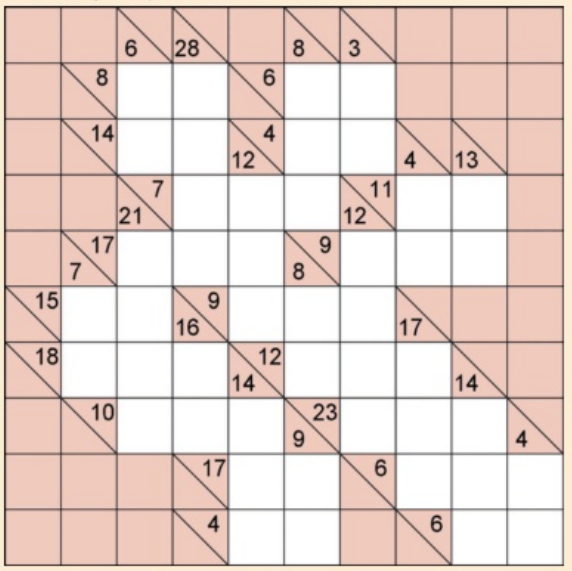
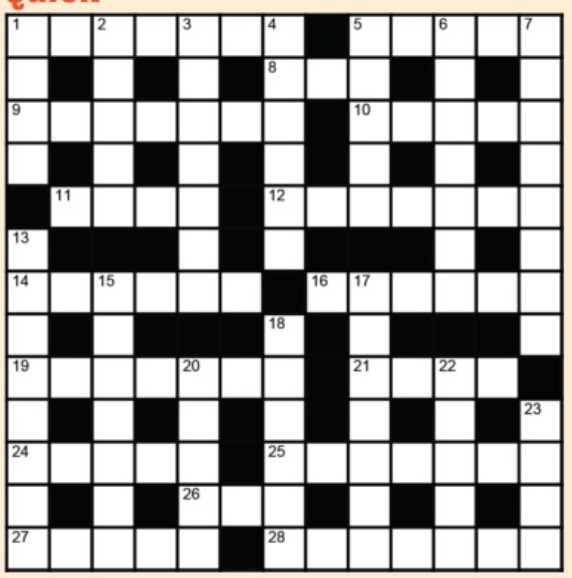


Quick



ACROSS

1 Calls the shots on the set (7)
5 Advanced furtively (5)
8 Playback singer Arun (3)
9 To recover (7)
10 Lariat made from strange "tiara"? (5)
11 Not confined (4)
12 Country, once Basutoland (7)
14 Keep secret or hidden? (4,2)
16 Neutered (6)
19 Goes backwards, retreats or ebbs (7)
21 One Caribbean republic (4)
24 Fingerprint feature (5)
25 Wandering about aimlessly (7)
26 Untruth (3)
27 Tom's prey (5)
28 Surrendered (7)

DOWN

1 A small knife (4)
2 Happen again (5)
3 French castle (7)
4 Bare or elementary (6)
5 British noblemen (5)
6 Deathly pale (7)
7 A card suit (8)
13 Governor of Karnataka from 2009 to 2014 (8)
15 Help given in time of need (7)
17 Packet or parcel (7)
18 Fish hawk ? (6)
20 Not in a very bright style! (5)
22 Having no vision (5)
23 Elderly (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: V EQUALS G

RIH CRBQDR UFQWWTXV. TB PQG VQ HQ HFR UHQDR FGX-VDP, PQG IDR STNRSP HQ LINR GXXRZRUUIDP WGDZFIURU.

Linemaro

If kisses were water I would give you the sea, if hugs were the leaves I would give you a tree

Mindchow

How to make God laugh: Tell him your future plans

Joke of the day

Friends are wonderful. I've got them all over the world. None in this country, but friends all over the world

Loop

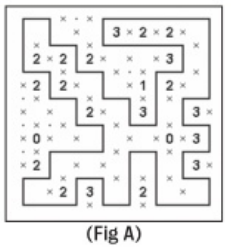
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

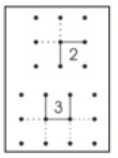
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

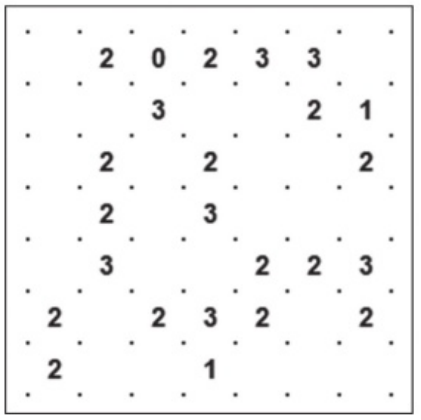
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



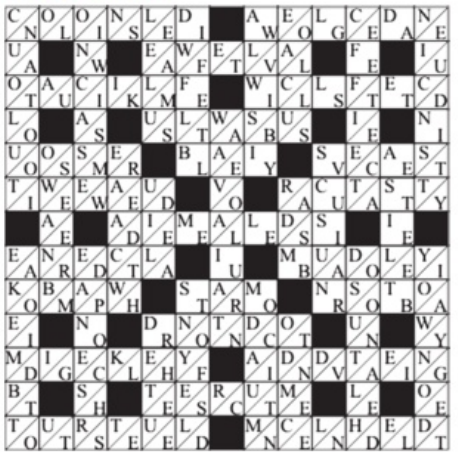
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



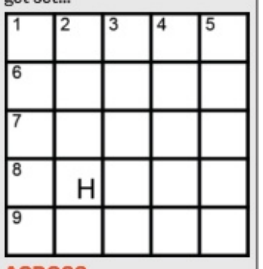
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

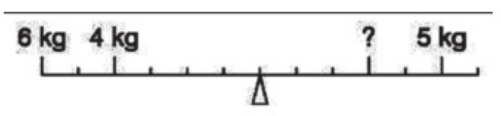
1 Sir BC; 6 Siren;
7 Oasis; 8 CK Hun;
9 Is gee

DOWN

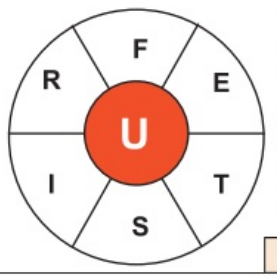
1 Or CCs; 2 Irish;
3 Is use; 4 Begin;
5 Skean

Mensapuzzle

What weight should be placed at ? to make the scale balance?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; 11 Good; 13 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

9	4						6	8
	8		3		6		2	
1								7
5	7		1		3		4	2
4	6		7		5		1	9
6								3
	3		8		7		5	
8	1						7	6

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

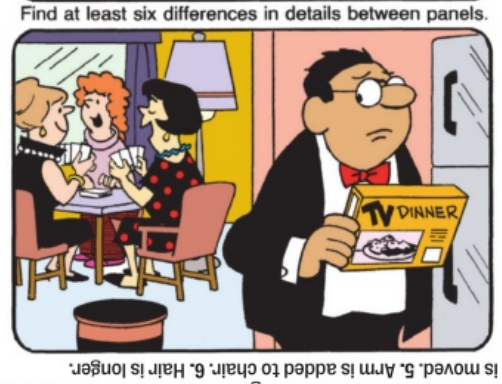
Easy = 25
2 7 7 9

Medium = 5
3 4 7 9

Hard = 11
3 5 9 4

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



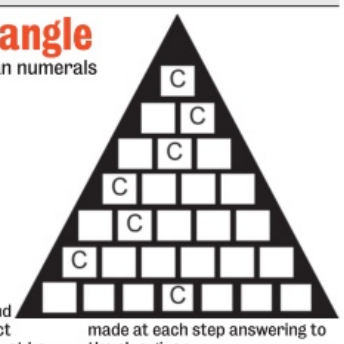
Differences: 1. Front of box is different. 2. Fingers are not shown on side of box. 3. Fridge handle is shorter. 4. Ottoman is moved. 5. Arm is added to chair. 6. Hair is longer.

Riddler

Which famous socialite likes DRAMA IN KHAKIS?

Alpha triangle

1 Hundred in Roman numerals
2 Account, abbr.
3 King beater
4 Lawsuit
5 Hurts
6 Swindles
7 Keeps an eye on



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

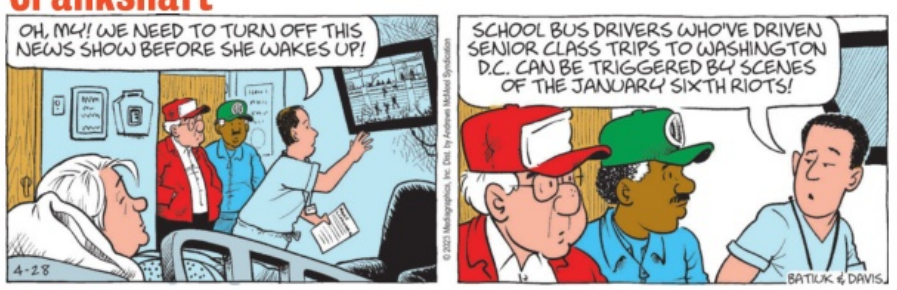
Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU HAVE A CRUSH ON COMIC SHOP JEN.
HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO DO...
BRENT, PLEASE. GIRLS DON'T EVEN KNOW YOUR NAME.
BRENT AND BRETT ARE BASICALLY THE SAME!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2023 AUGDEMS MCNEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


OH, MY! WE NEED TO TURN OFF THIS NEWS SHOW BEFORE SHE WAKES UP!
SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS WHO'VE DRIVEN SENIOR CLASS TRIPS TO WASHINGTON D.C. CAN BE TRIGGERED BY SCENES OF THE JANUARY SIXTH RIOTS!
4-28
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

SHELTER STORIES
"KATIE"
I KNOW YOU'RE THINKING "THE WORLD'S A MESS, EVERYTHING'S CRAZY...
DO I REALLY NEED A DOG AT THIS TIME!?!"
YES, YOU DO. I'LL HELP YOU GET THROUGH IT.
mutts.com
5-2

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, your energy level will be high, making you happy and optimistic to fulfill your desires through hard work. You plan to go for outings with friends and family to share your happiness. Students will see good progress in their studies.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, until late afternoon, the day is not good. You may feel unhappy and nervous, but after noon, you will be happier. Your internal vitality will boost your self-confidence. Avoid carelessness in financial, professional, and study-related decisions. Sometimes, you may face self-respect issues with your spouse, so patience is necessary to avoid turning happy moments into bad ones.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, your tendency to overspend may affect your savings. Be careful while expressing yourself at work and on the domestic front. Avoid lending money and postpone important decisions regarding real estate and other assets. Try to avoid shirking responsibilities.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, there may be peace of mind. You may plan to invest capital in your business, which can increase liquidity. Your earnings may boost your financial health. Enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, enhancing harmony in family life. Singles may find a suitable match, and lovebirds may decide to get married. Students will be blessed with good karma.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may become very happy as your losses turn into profits. Your seniors may appreciate your work, and there may be changes in your position, place, or responsibilities at work, possibly in terms of promotions. Your opponents and hidden enemies may be under control now. Singles and lovebirds may make important marriage decisions with the help of relatives or friends.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which brings happiness. Last week's crunch is over, and with the blessings, you may see the results of your hard work. With the help of your subordinates, you may be able to initiate postponed tasks. There are gains in your business that can boost your finances.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may feel dull and have some health issues. It is advised to postpone investments in business and not start new ventures, as losses are likely. Your gains may turn into losses.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may receive profitable business orders that will benefit you in the near future. Implement new ideas in your work and welcome new partnerships. Your busy work schedule may make you mentally tired, affecting your domestic life.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you perform well in your job, and your colleagues cooperate with you. Your performance may be good, and you can complete postponed projects on time. You may lend money for investment purposes, and job seekers may find new jobs. Positive news for those affected by old health issues.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, situations are now okay, and people around you respond to you. Avoid taking life as a burden and try to sustain yourself in unavoidable situations. You may face difficulties in easy gains, but blessings from elders can help you overcome them. Your confusions in choosing targets may now be resolved.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, tasks remain incomplete, and you may experience mood swings. Your patience may be tested, and silly mistakes may confuse your work conclusions. Lovebirds may find themselves confused about their feelings, and high expectations may affect emotional attachment with their spouses. Take care of your parents, and students may experience a loss of concentration.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you will be glad as you maintain a balance between earnings and expenditures, boosting your finances. Your network will help you implement your plans, and your siblings and subordinate staff will be more helpful today. Plan a visit to elders or a spiritual place.

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Samar Goel, 8 years, Vidyashilp School

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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
16 - 8 ÷ 4 × 2 - 0 × 2
16 - 2 × 2 - 0 × 2
16 - 4 - 0 × 2
16 - 4 - 0
12 - 0
12

QUOTE UNCODE
Eat before shopping. If you go to the store hungry, you are likely to make unnecessary purchases.

BULL'S EYE
fruit, fuse, ruse, rust, suet, suit, suite, sure, surf, SURFEIT, true, turf, user

FAST FIVE

S	I	E	G	E
C	H	U	N	K
R	I	S	E	N
C	R	I	B	S

STRIKE OUT

O	U	S	T	E	D	M	E	L	D	E	D
B	H	T	E	C	U	M	L	E	
M	I	C	K	E	Y	I	N	V	A	I	N
I	O	R	O	N	D	O	N	W	
K	M	P	H	T	A	O	N	O	T	A
A	R	E	C	A	I	M	A	D	L	Y
A	I	M	L	E	S	S	I	
T	W	E	E	D	O	R	U	T	T	Y
O	A	S	L	A	B	S	E	I
U	S	R	L	E	I	S	C	A	T
T	A	C	K	L	E	I	L	F	E	D
U	N	E	W	E	L	F	U
C	O	I	N	E	D	A	E	G	E	A	N

QUICK

J	E	R	R	Y		Y	I	E	L	D	E	D		
A		U		L	I	E		G		N		E		
W	H	O	R	L		R	O	A	M	I	N	G		
D		C		U		P		K		L		A		
R	E	C	E	D	E	S		C	U	B	A			
A		U		O		A						S		
H	U	S	H	U	P		S	P	A	Y	E	D		
B		A		E				L				N		
	F	R	E		L	E	S	O	T	H	O			
K		U		T		P		L		S		M		
R	E	C	L	A	I	M		R	I	A	T	A		
I		E		H		I	L	A		H		I		
D	I	R	E	C	T	S		E	D	G	E	D		

MENSA PUZZLE
Kim Kardashian
9 kg.
LH:
6 kg X 6 = 36 kg
4 kg X 4 = 16 kg
36 + 16 = 52 kg
RH:
5 kg X 5 = 25 kg
9 kg X 3 = 27 kg
25+27 = 52 kg

RIDDLER

SUDOKU

8	1	4	5	3	9	2	7	6
2	3	9	8	6	7	1	5	4
6	5	7	4	1	2	8	9	3
4	6	2	7	8	5	3	1	9
3	9	1	6	2	4	7	8	5
5	7	8	1	9	3	6	4	2
1	2	6	9	5	8	4	3	7
7	8	5	3	4	6	9	2	1
9	4	3	2	7	1	5	6	8

ALPHA TRIANGLE
C, AC, ACe, Case, Aches, Cheats, Watches.

GO FIGURE
Easy
7 + 2 + 7 + 9 = 25
Medium
7 - 9 + 3 + 4 = 5
Hard
9 + 4 - 5 + 3 = 11

LOOP

KAKURO

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